Curbing tobacco consumption

215. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether WHO has stressed the need to develop and implement tobacco control strategies;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to bring forth any legislation to restrict use of tobacco;

(c) whether the tobacco related diseases are increasing in the country and if so, the total number of persons died due to such diseases during the last three years; and

(d) what other strategies would be adopted to curb use of tobacco in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) Yes, Sir. WHO has initiated steps for development of a global framework convention on tobacco control and has stressed need for implementation of tobacco control activities by all the members States.

(b) to (d) The committee on Subordinate Legislation (Tenth Lok Sabha) in its 22nd Report had made several recommendations primarily intended to discourage the use of tobacco and its products. The Government is examining these recommendations and the draft legislation is under consideration of the Government. As per data furnished by Indian Council of Medical Research, the year-wise trends related to mortality and morbidity due to tobacco use in India are not available. However, it has been estimated that in India about eight lakhs deaths occur due to tobacco use. Currently, an estimated 163000 new cases of cancer occur in India in a year, due to tobacco

use. The estimated number of cases of coronary artery disease and chronic obstructive lung diseases due to tobacco use in India are 44.5 lakhs and 39.2 lakhs, respectively.

Health-Care facilities

216. SHRI E. BALANANDAN:
SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the ratio of hospitals and hospital beds per million of people in Seventh, Eighth and Ninth Five Year Plan periods separately, State-wise;

(b) the ratio of doctors, nurses per million people during the same period separately, State-wise; and

(c) the growth rate of primary health centres, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (c) Number of hospitals, number of hospital beds & number of beds all type alongwith ratio during 1985 to 1995, number of beds, States/Union Territories-wise as on 31.12.1995, number of medical practitioners registered with Medical Council of India alongwith ratio for the whole nation, number of doctors in Government Agencies and average population served in different States/Union Territories, ratio of nurses per million during Seventh, Eighth and Ninth Plan, States/UTs-wise and progress of establishment of Primary Health Centres are attached as Annexure I to VI. (*See Appendix 189, Annexure No. 8)*